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# ART. II.—Description of a New Species of Corethra (Mochlonyx) from Australia.

### BY E. W. FERGUSON, M.B., Ch.M.

#### [Read 11th March, 1920.]

The sub-family Chaoborinae (Corethrinae) is poorly represented in Australia, the only species previously recorded being Chaoborus (Corethra) queenslandensis, Theob. The discovery of a species belonging to the genus Corethra is therefore of special interest, particularly as the genus has hitherto been recorded only from the Northern Hemisphere. I have followed Brunetti (Records Indian Museum, IV., 1911, p. 317) in sinking Mochlonyx, Loew, 1844, in favour of Corethra, Meigen, 1803.

#### CORETHRA AUSTRALIENSIS, sp. n.

Small, dark brown, legs yellowish, unbanded.

I Head dark brown, clothed with grevish tomentum, brownish near base, with long somewhat scattered brown hairs; palpi brown with brownish hairs, longer on basal joints; antennae plumose, brown, the basal part of each joint behind the whorl and the extreme apex white, the two apical joints entirely brown: hairs long, brown, set in whorls on each joint, except the last two, on which the hairs are shorter, and which are also clothed with fine whitish pubescence. Thorax dark brown, with a narrow median darker line; densely clothed with yellowish brown tomentum, more greyish posteriorly, and with scattered brown hairs. Abdomen dark brown, somewhat lighter at bases of segments, with scattered brown hairs, a few yellowish ones intermingled; apical segment with lobes short, stout, rather strongly curved; venter with scattered vellow hairs. Wings hvaline, veins light brown rather thinly set with dark brown setose hairs, first fork cell one and a-half times the length of second, its base nearer to base of wing, the first cell two and a-half times as long as stem; posterior cross vein short, about twice its length distant from mid-cross vein. Legs vellowish, with brown hairs, tarsi broken.

<sup>2</sup> Agrees with male, with the usual sexual differences: Antennae with shorter whorls and lighter brown; palpi darker than antennae; head with rather conspicuous golden yellow hairs.

## New Species of Corethra.

Thorax as in  $\mathcal{J}$ , but with finer yellow hairs in addition to stouter brown ones. Abdomen brown, the posterior borders and sides of segments with long golden yellow hairs and shorter yellow ones elsewhere; venter with similar scattered hairs. Wings as in  $\mathcal{J}$ but posterior cross vein longer; the veins rather more hairy. Legs with first tarsal joint considerably shorter than second joint.

Dimensions:— Jong, 4.5 mm.; 9 long, 4 mm.

Hab.:--Victoria.

The specimens described above were bred out by Mr. F. P. Spry from larvae obtained at Nyora, Victoria, by Mr. J. Searle, and presented to the National Museum, Melbourne, where the types will be found.

I am indebted to Mr. Edwards of the British Museum for specimens of *C. culiciformis*, de Geer, the European species, for comparison. From this *C. australiensis* differs widely in its smaller size, its darker colour, and its clothing, the European species being clothed with long conspicuous golden hairs, and having the wings much more hairy.

*C. cinctipes,* the American species differs *inter alia multa* in the banded legs.

A specimen in the British Museum collection labelled *C. lapponicus*, Bergroth, is a much larger and otherwise different species.

31